REMARKS

Amendments

Amendments to the Claims

Applicant has amended the claims to clarify the meaning of the claim term "poorly classified region." The definition is set forth in paragraph 29 on page 8 of the specification. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

Rejections

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-21

Claims 1-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Sethuraman, et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,643,387 and having an issue date of November 4, 2003. Applicant does not admit that Sethuraman is prior art and reserves the right to challenge it at a later date. Nonetheless, Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 1-21 is not anticipated by Sethuraman.

Sethuraman discloses identifying key objects in frames of video and storing their motion information for subsequent use in context indexing. The key objects are identified using object motion segmentation. The motion information for each key object is developed using optical flow trajectory segmentation.

Applicant claims the reclassification of a poorly classified region of video. Although the Examiner is required to broadly interpret terms in the claims, the Examiner cannot interpret claim terms beyond the scope of the Applicant's definition of the terms. Applicant defined the phrase "poorly classified region" in the specification as a region identified/classified as belonging to an improper class, and has amended the independent claims to insert this definition. Thus, Sethuraman must teach or suggest the reclassification of poorly classified regions to anticipate Applicant's invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102. However, Sethuraman contains no disclosure directed toward poor classification of regions, and therefore cannot be properly interpreted as teaching or suggesting the reclassification of such poorly classified regions.

Furthermore, Applicant respectfully but strongly objects to the Examiner's rejection of claim 8 as being anticipated by Sethuraman. Applicant claims a particular equation used to reclassify a poorly classified region of video. Sethuraman does not teach or suggest the equation as claimed. In fact, the section of Sethuraman relied on by the Examiner in rejecting claim 8 discloses the classification of the motion information for the key objects into certain categories of actions, such as human, vehicular, or random actions, and does not teach or suggest classifying the key objects themselves. Thus, Sethuraman cannot be properly interpreted as disclosing Applicant's claimed equations used to reclassify a region of video.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the invention claimed in claims 1-21 is not anticipated by Sethuraman under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

SUMMARY

Claims 1-21 are currently pending. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims.

If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Sue Holloway at (408) 720-8300 x309.
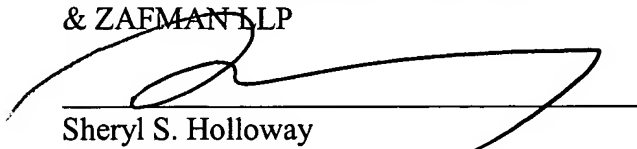
Deposit Account Authorization

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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